GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5244
ANSWERED ON:28.04.2003
RAISING OF GROUND WATER LEVEL
RAGHUVIR SINGH KAUSHAL

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work of constructing ponds/anicut/dams in rural areas has been going on since 1990-01 for raising ground water level through water harvesting;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) the percentage of rain water going waste by flowing into rivers and nallahs and the total land likely to be irrigated with the water; and

(d) the preventive steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SMT. BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY)

(a) & (b) The Central Ground Water Board (CGWB), under the Ministry of Water Resources had started a Central Sector Scheme on pilot basis in 1994-95 for studies in artificial recharge of ground water under which, construction of ponds/check dams/percolation tanks/recharge shafts and other rain water harvesting structures were taken up for raising ground water level. The studies were completed in 1997-98 at a cost of Rs. 3.30 crore. Based on the results of these studies, the scheme was extended during the IX Five Year Plan (1998-2002) under which, 174 recharge projects in 27 States/Union Territories were approved for implementation during the IX Plan is given in enclosed statement.

(c) There is an average annual precipitation (including snowfall) of 4000 Billion Cubic Metre (BCM) in the country. Out of this, the annual average flow in the river systems of the country is 1869 BCM and the annual replenishable ground water use resource is about 432 BCM. 605 BCM is being presently utilised through surface and ground water resources. Rest of the water flows down into the sea out of which, certain quantity of water is required for ecological needs of the rivers. The rain water harvesting is being undertaken by various States, private agencies, NGOs etc., at different sites. No assessment of the quantum of rain water being harvested and utilised for different purposes in the country has been made.

(d) Water being a State subject, it is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Governments to plan, finance and execute schemes for augmenting water resources. The Central Government has initiated following measures for rain water harvesting in the country:-

(i) Implementation of a Central Sector Scheme for Study of Recharge to Ground Water in the country.

(ii) Circulation of Manual/Guidelines on Artificial Recharge of Ground Water to the States/Union Territories to enable them to formulate area specific artifical recharge schemes to check the declining trend in ground water levels.

(iii) Organisation of mass awareness programmes and training courses on rain water harvesting and artificial recharge of ground water.

(iv) Constitution of the Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for regulation and control of ground water management and development.

(v) Launching of website on Roof Top Rain Water Harvesting (www.cgwbindia.com) to make aware and educate the public about various techniques of harvesting rain water and store it for future use.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) & (b) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5244 FOR REPLY ON 28.4.2003

STATE-WISE NO. OF RECHARGE PROJECTS APPROVED UNDER THE CENTRAL GROUND WATER BOARD'S SCHEME OF 'STUDY OF RECHARGE TO GROUND WATER' DURING THE IX FIVE YEAR PLAN

S.NO.	Name of State/Union Territory	No. of Project
1	ANDHRA PRADESH	10
2	ASSAM	1
3	ARUNACHAL PRADESH	1
4	BIHAR	2
5	GUJARAT	3
6	HARYANA	8
7	HIMACHAL PRADESH	6
8	JHARKHAND	5
9	JAMMU & KASHMIR	8
10	KARNATAKA	2
11	KERALA	13
12	MADHYA PRADESH	5
13	MAHARASHTRA	4
14	MEGHALAYA	1
15	MIZORAM	1
16	NAGALAND	3
17	ORISSA	8
18	PUNJAB	17
19	RAJASTHAN	18
20	TAMILNADU	10
21	UTTAR PRADESH	10
22	UTTARANCHAL	1
23	WEST BENGAL	7
24	NCT of DELHI	18
25	ANDAMAN & NICOBAR	3
26	LAKSHADWEEP	2
27	CHANDIGARH	7
TOTAL		174